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STILL A LIVE TOPIC.

Nothing new can be written about Washington's Birthday and the thoughts it inspires in the minds of patriotic Americans. For long years it has been the subject of editorials and essays and lectures, and it would be strange, indeed, if the theme had not been treated in every conceivable manner.

But one thing can be said, and said with truth, not only to-day, but in all future time: Never can the lessons of the anniversary be repeated too often; never can the subject become "weary, stale, flat and unprofitable" while men continue to live and the life of the great Republic lasts.

Washington's character is the model that cannot be held up too constantly before the eyes of the rising generation. Washington's unselfish devotion, pure patriotism and wise precepts cannot be brought too frequently to the minds of men of mature age who are apt to forget the obligations of American citizenship.

Indeed, the further we leave the early days of the Republic behind, the more necessary it becomes to recall the simplicity and purity of the men of those days. The more powerful and influential we grow as a nation and the more our wealth increases as a people, the greater need there is to remember the warnings and counsel of Washington's memorable address.

What sorrow and suffering would have been spared in the past if the nation had paid better heed to Washington's exhortation to his countrymen to "indignantly frown upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of their country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which link together the various parts." How much less would we have to suffer from the "baneful effect of the spirit of party," against which Washington warned us "in the most solemn manner," did not tempt ambitious partisans to keep alive the sectional strife which so happily ended in a restored Union thirty years ago.

In the hurry and scramble of everyday life in the busy bustling age, the fires of patriotism are apt to be neglected and to be allowed to burn low. It is well on this National holiday to stir the embers and refresh them with new fuel. In crowded cities, among a mixed population, it is true the moral of the day is apt to be lost in the desire for recreation, but in the rural districts it is still Washington's Birthday, and the old and honored practices of the day still prevail. And who shall say how priceless are the blessings secured to the Republic by the sturdy patriotism of the yeomanry of the Union?

AN INCIDENT AT RIO.
A singular incident in Rio Bay has again drawn attention to the command of the United States squadron at that point.
An English merchant vessel in the bay needed a supply of fresh water. The insurgents refused to allow a water-borne to go alongside the thirsty ship. The captain of the latter applied to the British commander for aid and protection, and for some unaccountable reason his request was refused. Thereupon he appealed to Admiral Benham, who responded by taking the water-borne under his wing, hoisting the well-known Stars and Stripes over her, and procuring for the British captain the needed supply. Of course, the rebel yachtmen, who were on the water-borne, as they had threatened to do. They know Benham at Rio.

It is a novel experience to find an English naval officer and an English warship refusing protection to an Englishman in trouble. The incident is a good American incident to record on Washington's Birthday.

WHAT ARE THEY WAITING FOR?
When Hamlet said to the players, "Leave off your damnable faces and begin," he did not, of course, think how well the remark would fit the case of the company of actors in the Senate of the United States to-day. Yet the words could be appropriately applied to Chandler and the rest who are making exhibitions of themselves at Washington while the country waits impatiently and in anxiety for their action in the great tariff drama.

It is now said that after a great deal of backing and filling the Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee has fallen back on the Wilson bill substantially in the shape in which it passed the House. Coal and iron ore are said to be still left; where they ought to be, on the free list, while a tax of 1 per cent. is likely to be proposed on sugar.

Well, why does the Committee so report the bill? Why have they not got before the Senate in some shape or shape that the filibustering may be the sooner begun and the sooner disposed of? Why waste the time of the Senate in stupid wrangles with the ever fresh and ever intermeddling Chandler, while the country is waiting to be applied to for a settlement of the tariff question and the fulfillment of another Democratic pledge?

HE HADN'T HAD ENOUGH.
Charles Mitchell met Jim Corbett in the prize ring at Madison Square, the other day, as per stipulation, F. F. promptly knocked into the middle of the following week in the third round. Charley took his defeat smilingly. Jim took the \$20,000 purse and other spoils of victory, the sports who were "broke" went to wait back, and all was over.

That should have been the end of the "big fight," so far as punishment was concerned. Both men have appeared ever since to be good friends. Each has

ANNIE PLEADED GUILTY.
Hattie Adams' Former Servant
Confesses to Many Theft.

Annie Davis, colored, twenty-eight years old, of 152 Bond Street, Brooklyn, who, it is said, was employed by Hattie Adams before the Parkhurst era, was held in Jefferson Market Police Court this morning for trial on a charge of grand larceny. There were a half dozen complainants in court ready to testify against her and she pleaded guilty.

The woman had operated extensively on the east and west sides and it is estimated that altogether she has stolen cash, clothing and jewelry representing \$2,000, among her victims are Alderman S. W. Smith, of 24 West Thirtieth Street, who claims his loss in jewelry and clothing is fully \$200; James Ogden, of 16 East Twenty-eighth Street, cash, jewelry and clothing of the value of \$200; Mrs. Mary Rockwell, of 36 East Twenty-second Street, jewelry and clothing valued at \$200; Mr. G. Winans, of 14 West Thirtieth Street, \$225; Mrs. F. A. Gott, of 24 West Thirtieth Street, and John Slavin, of 28 West Twenty-seventh Street.

The thief gained access to the houses by stating that she was sent by some person to clean the premises and to remove some of the occupants. Once inside she would ransack the rooms and carry off every article of jewelry or value she could find.

She is understood and apparently less than twenty years old. She was arrested yesterday afternoon by Central Office Detectives Kosh and McDonald, who had been following her for a week. They saw her coming out of the house at 24 West Thirtieth Street, where she had stolen a valuable clock. She fought like a tigress and bit Detective Kosh's hand so badly that he had the wound cauterized and other appliances of his trade.

Residents of Mulberry street have been disturbed late by a thief who has broken into their houses and stolen clothing and jewelry.

At night Mrs. Mary Hardin, of 28 Mulberry Street, and Kambal trying to force an entrance into her apartments. She was taken to the police station and her husband and son were taken to the police station and her husband and son were taken to the police station.

It seems to be the idea of the United States Senate that tariff reform has extended to the removal of duties imposed by the Constitution on the upper house of Congress.

Reports that McKane is breaking down are perhaps to be taken with a grain of allowance for circumstances. But it is true that the McKane system at Gravesend is broken up.

"First in war, first in peace"—and if he were alive to-day George Washington would be first to appeal to the United States Senate to wake up and do its duty.

There has been an earthquake in New Jersey. But after the display made by its State Senate nothing can shock Gov. Werts's commonwealth very much.

"Delayed, but will pass." That's the preliminary "Greater New York" bill. But off, but will come to pass. That's the "Greater New York" bill.

Platt's Non-Partisan Police bill is too partisan to suit the Union League Club. It is too suggestive of Platt and Croker, and the old and honored practices of the day still prevail. And who shall say how priceless are the blessings secured to the Republic by the sturdy patriotism of the yeomanry of the Union?

Shore Inspector Furgueson's attention is invited to the wreckage which has been cast up by a tidal wave in the Gravesend vicinity.

Much executive session has not thus far developed any perceptible degree of executive ability on the part of Transit Commission.

If the new municipal building were to be the property of a private corporation, its walls would have been under way long ago.

In an "Evening World" extra New York got the only news of Erasmus Wiman's arrest which was printed yesterday.

To the general public it was, indeed, the unexpected which happened in the case of the King of Staten Island.

It appears that the padrones pay in promissory votes for the privilege of selling labor to the city bosses.

The law on manslaughter ought to be comprehensive enough to take in those Cornell Sophomores.

Mr. Bland's failure to get a quorum is hardly owing to his success in making the nation tired.

Erasmus Wiman's "Road to Success" seems to have had an unexpected side-track.

EDITORIAL CRISPS.
Of Two Evils.
It is hard to say which is the worst Congressional evil, the cold tea or the absentee—Philadelphia Record.

Genius Not in the Hat.
One of Von Helwig's good points was the manner in which he demonstrated that one can play a piano without wearing eccentric hair—Washington Post.

Advantages of a Closed Mouth.
The man who keeps his mouth closed seldom falls a victim to a severe cold, or is knocked down for calling a bigger man a liar—Williamson Post.

The Disbeliever Warned.
Dr. Harper does not seem to have profited by the experience of Noah's contemporaries. They died without wearing eccentric hair and where are they now—Chicago Post.

Not a Highly Colored Bench.
The Supreme Court now has a White, a Gray and a Brown among its justices—New Bedford Journal.

This Mayor's Badge Reform.
The new Mayor of Brooklyn persists in his programme of reform. He has vetoed the usual order of the Aldermanic good badges, doing no provision of law authorizing the expenditure of public money for this purpose. He seems to be proof against Aldermanic wrath—Boston Herald.

WORLDLINGS.
Two counties of California export more than 5,000,000 pounds of honey every year.
Coffee is supposed to have been introduced into England not earlier than the middle of the seventeenth century.
In consequence of the great demand for platinum in electrical appliances that metal is five times as expensive as it was a few years ago.
The Archbishop of Canterbury receives a salary of \$15,000 a year, while the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of London receive \$20,000 a year each.
Virginia's "Diamond Swamp" is not a swamp at all, but a low-lying forest, which has been so well drained that before many years a great part of it will probably be devoted to fine cultivation.

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Planning Now to Prosecute the Slave Dealers.

The fact that Street-Cleaning Commissioner Andrews, in conversation with the Rev. Father Handini, of the St. Raphael Italian Benevolent Society, admitted yesterday the injustice of the padrone system, and that he promised to deal directly with the Society in the employment of laborers for the Department, does not mean that the Society will relax its vigilance. On the contrary, the reverend father and the gentlemen associated with him intend to increase their exertions, if such a thing is possible, not only to see that the Commissioner keeps his word, but also to crush forever the power of the Italian laborer.

There was rejoicing among Italians generally when the Commissioner's statement became known. It meant that so far as the Street-Cleaning Department was concerned, if any dependence could be placed in Andrews's word, the padrone system was to be crushed forever.

It is regarded as strange that the Commissioner waited until he had got through hiding extra men before he made the promise. Out of several thousand men so far employed he has only given out a string of lies.

The Commissioner, however, has made so many promises that many fear there is a string of lies. One of the promises was that the Commissioner would wait until he had got through hiding extra men before he made the promise.

In the meantime the Society is going about stretched and ailing, and against the whole padrone system. That system has grown so large that it is impossible to get rid of it by the aid of the municipal service and on all the railroads and big contracts. The Executive Committee of the Society will meet to-morrow night to hear reports of investigations which have been made.

One of the members of that Committee is a man named Ferrero, who served with distinction during the civil war. It is regarded as strange that he should have been a member of the Committee.

Andrews over the fight against the padrones Ferrero and Andrews were both Italian. Ferrero is an American citizen and commanded a brigade. William S. Andrews was his standard-bearer.

During the fight Andrews held aloft the flag of the padrone. It may be that some thought of the day's work, but he was never seen taking it down and yielding to a certain extent at least, he did not do so.

Ferrero thinks it is just as good a fighter as he was thirty years ago. He says he has never lost the present struggle until victory is won.

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Usually such a subject does not come within the province of the Committee. But the padrones have put another aspect on the case.

Forty or fifty dollars have been paid for the right to sell "citizenship papers" rarely understood, from their lack of knowledge of the English language.

It is a matter of some importance that thousands of these papers have been illegally obtained and just as many illegals have been given out.

Storke of this nature are being told out by the police. The padrones are being made, so that in case an Italian is caught by the police, he can be put in jail.

Nearly one hundred complaints were filed this morning with Vincenzo Palmieri, chief of the Italian labor bureau. As a result, ten men were selected to prosecute Antonio Ricciardi, who was charged with having employed him at \$1.25 per day.

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